



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Deer Hunting

## *on the Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge*

July 16, 2013

### **Attention Hunters**

Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge intends to open to deer hunting (archery only) in Fall 2013, per New York State Hunting Regulations. The opening of new refuge lands to hunting must be completed through an approved Opening Package (submitted in Spring 2013). The opening of all new nation-wide lands to hunting is collectively announced in a Final Rule (50 CFR Part 32, 2013–2014 Refuge-Specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations; Final Rule). We anticipate that the Final Rule for 2013-2014 may be issued sometime in September 2013; however, *until this rule is issued, the refuge remains closed to hunting.*

We are dedicated to hunting the refuge in 2013 and are working to issue permits at the earliest possible time. Hunters wishing to participate in the 2013 hunt should contact the refuge as soon as possible; *9 permits will be issued on a first-come first-served basis.* In order to be considered for the 2013 hunt, please contact refuge staff directly at 973-702-7266 (extension 10). Staff will walk hunters through the application process, which includes a \$20 permit application fee (charged only if a permit is issued). Permits will be issued as soon as the above-mentioned rule is published. Refuge-specific regulations and maps will accompany the refuge hunting permit.

We are hopeful that hunting at Shawangunk Grasslands NWR will be approved in time for the October 1, 2013 archery opener. However, we have no control over the timing of the rule's publication. Hunters should not expect any guarantees as to the timing in which permits can be issued. We thank you for your understanding and your cooperation in this matter.

---

Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1999, is located in the Hudson Valley of New York. Public hunting is permitted on more than 4,291,000 acres in New York during specific times of the year. The hunting program is administered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in cooperation with NY's Department of Environmental Conservation.